

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1348

By Casada

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Representative Donna Rowland for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this body should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost probity, and whose efforts during their time in office have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their district and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Donna Rowland is one such distinguished public servant who has served both her constituency and this legislative body with honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, Representative Rowland has been a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of the 34th House District, and she has served her constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at her elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, Donna Rowland has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of House District 34 who have evinced their firm belief in Representative Rowland as a legislator by electing her to serve five terms as their representative, a position in which she has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, as a House member of the 102nd through the 106th General Assemblies, Donna Rowland has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who has always voted her conscience; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, Donna Rowland was born on June 5, 1969 in Shelbyville and graduated from Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, as an active and dynamic participant in the legislative process, Representative Rowland has rendered sterling service as the Chairman of the House Family

Justice Subcommittee; the Secretary of the House Consumer Employee Affairs Committee; and as a respected member of the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee; the House Budget Subcommittee; the Joint Education Oversight Committee; the Republican Caucus's Immigration Task Force and Accountability Task Force; and the Joint Fiscal Review Committee, where she has been a strong advocate for the conservative principle of limited government; and

WHEREAS, throughout her tremendous tenure, Donna Rowland has authored numerous pieces of landmark legislation and has successfully led grassroots efforts to defeat the proposed state income tax and to repeal the practice of giving driver licenses to illegal aliens; and

WHEREAS, she is recognized throughout this State as an effective champion for small business, lower property taxes, and economic security for families of the 34th District and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a staunch defender of the Tennessee taxpayer, Representative Rowland has chosen to cast a "present not voting" vote on most of this Body's resolutions, in protest of the \$300,000 wasted on congratulatory and memorializing resolutions so far this year; and

WHEREAS, a remarkable individual who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, Representative Rowland has graciously donated her time and energies to many community and civic organizations, including serving with distinction as the State Chairman of the American Legislative Exchange Council, the Chairman of the Rutherford County Young Republican Party, the State Director of Business and Economic Development and State Director of Veterans Affairs for the National Foundation of Women Legislators, the Vice President of the Rutherford County Drug Court Board, a Mediator/Arbitrator of the Better Business Bureau, and a member of the Stonecrest Medical Center Board of Trustees, the National Horse Show Commission Hearing Committee, the National Rifle Association, the Sugarbugs Board of Directors, the National Federation of Women Legislators, the National Conference of State Legislators, the Senior Advantage Advisory Board, the Senior Resource Network Advisory Board, the Family Staffing Solutions, Inc. Advisory Board, the Volunteer State Series Board of Governors, the Bootstraps of Middle Tennessee Board of Directors, and the United Way Allocation Board; and

WHEREAS, Donna Rowland also serves with the courage and conviction of a true patriot as a Major in the Tennessee State Guard; and

WHEREAS, a talented, astute, and productive professional, Representative Rowland serves with acumen and alacrity as a businesswoman in the Murfreesboro community; and

WHEREAS, Donna Rowland is a loyal member of the Baptist Church in which she is known for her solid Christian belief and deep and abiding faith in the Almighty; and

WHEREAS, Representative Rowland has received numerous awards and honors throughout her exemplary career, including the Tennessee Home Educators Association Friend of the Family Award, Rutherford County's 20 Under 40 Leaders Award, Tennessee Home Education Association Legislator, NRA Millennium Honor Roll, Tennessee Young Republican Federation Chairman's Award, Tennessee Republican Statesman of the Year, TCA Decision Making Award, TCA Leadership Award, Empire Who's Who Among Executive and Professional Women, and Who's Who in American Politics; and

WHEREAS, throughout her illustrious career as a public servant, Donna Rowland has earned a reputation for representing the time-honored values of her district and stands as a paragon of the established, conservative, results-oriented legislator who knows how to solve problems; and

WHEREAS, Representative Donna Rowland is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized for her distinguished tenure in this body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Representative Donna Rowland for her meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly, commend her for her countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of the 34th House District, and extend to her our best wishes for much success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.